

Four M-G-M Stars Among Ten Best Box-Office Draws of 1937.

CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

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TORONTO 2, CANADA

December 18th, 1937

"Hey Pa, go
to work!
There's only
a few
days to
Christmas!"

"I've got a cinch
this year, son,
all they want
is M-G-M's
'ROSALIE!'"



"ROSALIE" Starring NELSON EDDY and ELEANOR POWELL featuring Frank Morgan • Edna May Oliver • Ray Bolger • Ilona Massey • Billy Gilbert • Reginald Owen • Screen play Written and Produced by William Anthony McGuire • A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture • Directed by W. S. VAN DYKE II.

PUBLISHED BY

CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST COMPANY LIMITED

259 SPADINA AVENUE, TORONTO 2

THE PULSE OF THE PUBLIC!



getting a thrill out of
"NAVY BLUE AND GOLD"



blood pressure rising for
"THE FIREFLY"



beating fast for
"THE LAST GANGSTER"



feeling merry about
"LIVE, LOVE AND LEARN"



registering admiration for
"CONQUEST"



throbbing steadily for
"THOROUGHBREDS DON'T CRY"



getting excited about
"YOU'RE ONLY YOUNG ONCE"



leaping with joy for
"BEG, BORROW OR STEAL"



rarin' to go for
"ROSALIE"

(Merry M-G-M Christmas at the Box-Office!)

RAY PRESENTS

AND now to return to "Hurricane", with Dorothy Lamour as "Marama", and Jon Hall as "Terangi", with C. Aubrey Smith as "Father Paul", and Raymond Massey as the governor, "De Laage"; Mary Astor as "Madame De Laage", and John Carradine, you remember Carradine, you could spit blood at him in this picture, as the warden.

Don't be offended at the "spit", I have just come from New York where "bitch" has replaced Society's use of "louse" and "lousy".

Today, Society is making full use of "bitch"; no, not the female dog, that is another kind of bitch.

For instance, in talking about a friend, it's so smart to say, "Isn't she bitchy?"

But where's "The Hurricane" in this irrelevant and inconsequential language? Don't I sound like Freddie Bartholomew telling the judge that his aunt is his best guardian, that he would like his sisters to receive sufficient income from his M-G-M earnings, to give them a proper education, but that his father is old enough to look after himself.

Atta Boy, Freddie, stick to Auntie, and I still think it was you and Aunt Myllicent whom I saw in that restaurant in London, just before the matinee of "French Without Tears".

I watched you, Master Bartholomew, and if your language is slightly pedantic, your appetite is right down to earth, for you ate just like a boy who is being given a treat in a restaurant.

BUT, lest we forget "The Hurricane", I must tell you that I was so exhausted emotionally when I left the Astor Theatre, that had that shark got "Terangi", had that cold-blooded human fish of a governor decided to give him up to the blindness of man's sense of justice, I would have been the body carried home! What a "Hurricane", it left me limp!

At the Radio City Music Hall, "Modern Inventions" a Walt Disney cartoon in Technicolor, leaves us to understand that Donald Duck must have nine lives, or he would never survive what happens to him.

"On the Great Stage", produced by Leon Leonidoff, we behold "La Valse", Ravel's composition, presenting "The Birth of the Waltz", "The Waltz", and "The Apotheosis of the Waltz".

The Music Hall Corps de Ballet, with Florence Rogge as director, brings back delightful memories of Leonidoff and Rogge, Shea's Hippodrome, The Uptown, Jack Arthur and Orchestras at our theatres, in Toronto.

Leonidoff's career, as a ballet master in America, began in Toronto. Curiously enough, it was his work in Toronto which brought him his offers from the Metropolis, although Leonidoff was widely known as a solo-dancer in Europe, and as a creator of stage fantasies, the latter which combined the gayety of dancing, with tragedies.

L EONIDOFF, who gave the people of Toronto the soul of himself, who, with Florence Rogge, directed, trained and wrote the pantomime graces of those dancing etchings of comedy and tragedy, delighted us with his solo work; and, even with a mask upon his face, and a beard upon his chin, we knew the Leonidoff grace, and immediately spotted him!

As senior producer at the Music Hall at Rockefeller Centre, he is the same Leonidoff whom we knew in Toronto. "Hello, Leonidoff," said I, in greeting, and back to me came his cheery voice of welcome, "Hello, Ray Lewis, Meeses Smith, meet Erno Rapee, director of the Music Hall symphony orchestra".

You should hear Leonidoff's accent on Erno Rapee, he draws out the double E, for fear you will miss one E of it. But that's Leonidoff, accent always on the ARTISTE.

By the way, meandering through a bookshop to get "Marie Antoinette", in book form, since Norma Shearer is to star as this tragic and beautiful French queen, for M-G-M, a few snappy titles met my eye, and I thought what a gold mine these would prove in picture form for our province of Quebec, if screened.

There was "The Hussy's Handbook", "Latins and Lousy Lovers", "I've Got the South in My Mouth", and "Sex in a Nutshell"; the author is Helen Brown Norden.

A NOTHER stimulating title, "Corn Beef and Caviar - For the Live-Aloner". Marjorie Hillis and Bertina Foltz, co-authors of "Live Alone and Like It", are responsible for tying up corn beef with caviar.

Another book by Marjorie Hillis, "Orchids On Your Budget", or "Live Smartly On What You Have".

Louise Paine Benjamin has a book called "Why Men Like Us".

I thought the serpent in the Garden of Eden five thousand years ago, told us that one at an apple party.

Then there was, "Let Yourself Go", by Fred B. Barton, and "Be Glad You're Neurotic", by Busch, not overlooking Peter Morrell's, "Poisons, Potions and Profits".

From Parnassus, methinks a voice I hear, "The Greeks Haven't A Word For It", but New York has, "It's bitchy", and "I Can Get It For You Wholesale".



POSITION WANTED

Young man, 26, desires position in Toronto theatre or vicinity as Doorman. Willing to make himself generally useful to employers. Please reply — BOX 5 - DIGEST.

Watch for Associated Theatres' General Expansion Program.

DIGEST REVIEWS AND PREVIEWS

"PRESCRIPTION FOR ROMANCE"

UNIVERSAL



"Jay L."

THIS is another one of those swell little comedy-romances from the Universal studios, about which we have waxed garrulous before. Of the same school as "Girl Overboard", "Let Them Live", and "A Girl With Ideas", this picture supplies plenty of entertainment as the first half or second half of a double feature program.

The story deals with the efforts of Henry Hunter,* a swindler, to evade the law, by

means of a flight to Budapest, and taking refuge there with a girl whose father he had at one time helped. The girl is Wendy Barrie, and she believes the story Hunter tells her, although dashing detective Kent Taylor arrives and tells her what a heel Hunter really is. But Wendy cannot be shaken in her faith, and it takes the combined efforts of Taylor, Frank Jenks, an American newspaper man; Mischa Auer, as a Hungarian Count; and Dorothea Kent as Hunter's abandoned blonde sweetie, to convince Wendy that she has been "taken in".

Kent Taylor looks better than ever in the role of the detective. At one time Taylor's looks kind of bothered us, but now we are happy to say that we are perfectly satisfied. As for Wendy Barrie, she has always been a favorite of ours, and her work in this is up to the swell standard she set for herself in "Wings Over Honolulu", "A Girl With Ideas", and other pictures.

Mischa Auer is in his element as the Hungarian Count who is always broke, but whose dog, Mitzi, constantly proves a life-saver. We repeat what we have often said before, we believe that Auer is one of the funniest characters on the screen today, and have yet to see one picture in which he has not registered 100 per cent.

Frank Jenks, whom many of you will remember as the taxi-driver in "100 Men and a Girl", plays the role of an American newspaper man and Auer's "patron". Dorothea Kent, last seen in "A Girl With Ideas", plays the role of Hunter's blonde pal, and scores convincingly in the part. Others in the cast include Bert Roach, Gregory Gaye and Christian Rub.

Direction is by S. Sylvan Simon, and is a credit to that esteemed gentleman. I believe this is only Simon's second directorial effort, which promises much that is good for the future. Production by Edmund Grainger is excellent.

All it would have taken to have made this an "A" picture was a good original story and a good working script. Unfortunately both were lacking, but despite that, "Prescription For Romance" is right up there with the best of the "B's". Released in Canada by Empire-Universal.

DIGEST RADIO REVIEWS

Programme—JELL-O PROGRAMME.

Sponsor—General Foods.

Stars—Jack Benny and company.

Time—7.00-7.30 P.M. E.S.T., Sunday, Dec. 12th, NBC.

LAST Sunday's "Jell-O" programme presented Jack and Mary doing their Xmas shopping in a Los Angeles department store. General fun ensued as Jack tried to spend his eight dollars. Kenny Baker got all embarrassed buying a pair of women's stockings, and Santa Claus Schlepperman presented an Andy Devine doll that kept repeating "Hyah, Buck", "Hyah, Buck". Laughs were frequent, and Don Wilson as usual handled the commercials tastefully.

Concensus—Good programme, well directed and presented, with "plugs" not ever present in odious forms.

* * *

Programme—CHASE AND SANBORN HOUR.

Sponsor—Standard Brands.

Stars—Don Ameche and company with guest stars.

Time—8.00-9.00 P.M. E.S.T., Sunday, Dec. 12th, NBC.

RATED the best programme on the air by almost all the ether critics, the Chase and Sanborn Hour continues to "mow 'em down". Don Ameche, Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy, Dorothy Lamour, Nelson Eddy, and a weekly guest-star constitute one full hour of entertainment that can be equalled by no other programme. Last week's guest was Mae West, and personally we cared less for last week's programme than any for several weeks. Humour verged on the crude side, something that the Chase and Sanborn Hour has hitherto avoided. Let's hope it was only Mae's influence, and will be forgotten.

Concensus—Humour too much on the crude side for youngsters. Otherwise up to scratch. Nelson Eddy's singing, outstanding this week.

THE EXHIBITORS COLUMN

News Garnered by Your Reviewer, from Coast to Coast.

VISITORS to Toronto include F. G. Spencer operating the Spencer Circuit of Theatres in the Maritime Provinces — H. Berlin who is opening the Somerset Theatre, Ottawa, on New Year's Eve — M. Heppner operating the Colonial Theatre, Winnipeg — Mischa Triller of Western Theatres Limited down here with the Winnipeg "Bombers" — B. Miles, son of the illustrious J. Miles of Western Theatres Limited.

Sam Weiner, operating Regent and Fox Theatres, Winnipeg, off on an early jaunt to Florida.

R. Shulman recently opened the Valor Theatre on Portage Avenue, Winnipeg.

Double congratulations to Shulman on the opening of the Theatre and on the arrival of his son.

Leslie Allen, son of H. J., is going to Vancouver as Manager of Grand National at that point.

Nate Rothstein, operating the Roxy, Saskatoon, building at Goldfields.

Bill Popham, formerly of Starland Theatre, Winnipeg, is now operating the Playhouse in that city with vaudeville and picture policy to very good business.

DIGEST REVIEWS AND PREVIEWS

H. A. Bercovitch of the Rex Theatre, Regina, has recently redecorated his theatre, and report very good business.

J. H. Yuil, operating Monarch, Medicine Hat, has recently taken over the Dreamland Theatre in that city.

K. M. Leach, operating the Strand, Calgary, has reopened the Empress Theatre in Calgary.

J. B. Barron has recently opened the Grand Theatre, Calgary, on a straight picture policy.

D. H. Copeland, Columbia Pictures, has returned to Toronto after a Western tour.

Harry Cohen, Warner Brothers, Calgary, has joined Empire Universal.

Congratulations to Larry Graburn of Capitol, Halifax, for his beautiful Anniversary Program.

Bill Novak, formerly of Gaiety, Winnipeg, transferred to Metropolitan, Regina.

Village Theatre, Toronto, recently broke all house records with the showing of "100 Men and a Girl".

Congratulations to George Dobbigan, Gaiety, Winnipeg — a son.

Congratulations to Nate Rotshtein — engagement of daughter.

Congratulations Gordon Dahn, son of illustrious Harry, and manager of the Seville Theatre, Montreal — engagement to Dora Marshall, daughter of E. W. Marshall, North Battleford.

* * *

RECENT visitors to Winnipeg include J. Zeitzow of the Princess, Melville; C. Fallis, Rainy River; A. Mellon, of the Elite, Portage La Prairie; C. W. Taylor, Playhouse Theatre, Portage La Prairie; Mrs. G. Peebles, Dauphin, Dauphin; Mr. W. Grieves, Wagar Theatre, Rivers; Jack Whitehouse, Roxy, Saskatoon; E. W. Marshall, Empress, North Battleford.

Alec Adilman, Consolidated Theatres, Montreal, went to New York for holiday.

Congratulations Nate Miles, Western Theatres Limited, on his engagement.

J. Whitehouse, formerly of Osborne Theatre, Winnipeg, has been made Manager of Roxy, Saskatoon, and Mr. Dave Rothstein, formerly of Saskatoon, now in charge of bookings for Rothstein Circuit.

Jules Levine, Columbia Pictures, has recovered from his illness and is off to Montreal.

E. W. Marshall, North Battleford, has just returned from a holiday trip to England.

Sympathy to J. I. Foy, Empire-Universal, on the passing of his mother.

Western Theatres Limited redecorating the Gaiety Theatre in Winnipeg.

"Jay L."

J. P. O'LOCHLIN RETURNS TO TORONTO

S. R. Kent - 20th Century-Fox Drive Completed



J. P. O'LOCHLIN

AFTER a practically continuous absence of six months as Drive Leader for the 5th S. R. Kent Annual Drive, which took him into every office in the United States and Canada, J. P. O'Lochlin has returned to his desk at the Head Office of Twentieth Century-Fox where he has been the recipient of a great number of well deserved congratulations from his many exhibitor friends.

The Drive just completed was officially terminated on November 27th, and marked a number of outstanding performances, the most notable being the breaking of all Motion Picture records for a fifteen week period and culminating in a gross of \$1,800,000 for the fifteenth and last week, which figure has never been accomplished in any one week.

When it is considered that this drive was conducted under the leadership of J. P. O'Lochlin, we Canadians should, one and all, compliment him on this great achievement. We should too be mindful of the glory reflected on Canada in that a Canadian could take hold of such an important undertaking and perform the Drive Leadership duties in such a satisfactory manner and so distinguish himself throughout the United States and Canada.

Watch For Associated Theatres' General Expansion Program.

WASHINGTON FILM DIGEST

BY GEORGE W. MEHRTENS

WASHINGTON, D.C., Dec. 13—(CTP)

THE impending appointment of Joseph P. Kennedy as American Ambassador to Great Britain, which is reported in authoritative quarters here, looms as a highly significant Administration move insofar as the motion picture industry is concerned in view of the British quota system and the proposed trade agreement between the United States of America and the United Kingdom.

It was as a motion picture executive that Mr. Kennedy first attained national prominence and the industry pins its hopes for equitable trade relations with England in the future on the successful consummation of a trade treaty between the two nations. Kennedy's association with the industry dates back to the old F.B.O. days, the company which he purchased and headed until he sold his controlling interest to RCA. Kennedy later headed the Pathe Exchange and was producer of the Gloria Swanson pictures, released through United Artists. With the acquisition of Pathe by RKO, Kennedy retired from the industry in 1933.

It is believed that the negotiations in the British American treaty will more than likely be more difficult than those previously completed by the Administration. As the Administrator's star "trouble-shooter" Kennedy will play the role of Uncle Sam's Business Man Ambassador replacing the "diplomatic" Robert Bingham. The fact that Kennedy understands the motion picture business is expected to be of direct dollar-and-cent benefit to American producers in any London discussions of quota and forthcoming trade treaty problems.

Uncle Sam's Largest Motion Picture Studio

THE United States Department of Interior's Bureau of Mines was revealed here this week as being one of the Government's largest motion picture laboratories concentrating upon the production of educational films which according to an estimate will be viewed by more than 10,000,000 people in the year 1938.

The Bureau is unique in that all the direction, scenario writing and final production of the motion pictures is done by one man, who it is reported doesn't have a secretary.

Morgan Leopold, safety engineer for the bureau whose chief job is supervision of its vast movie project mildly states that when he wants a secretary he must "bum one from somebody". The films he directs are financed by industrial firms, photographed by commercial cameramen and released by the Bureau of Mines, free of charge.

"The great cry today is for industrial films," Leopold told Canadian Moving Picture Digest, "It's well to show school children a picture of Washington crossing the Delaware but they want something more recent."

The reels he puts out depict the stories behind coal, oil, glass and other products of everyday life. Industry

is glad to spend the money for them because while they carry no direct advertising they dramatize the products for the public. Producers realize that Leopold can guarantee them wider distribution and more expert direction than they could obtain independently.

After a company has arranged for Leopold's service, it lets bids for the film to commercial photographers. He accompanies them to the mine, or oil field where the picture is to be made and oversees their work. The completed film is returned to his Washington office, where he edits it with the advice of other Bureau of Mines' engineers. The finished product is sent to the bureau's library in Pittsburgh, whence it is released to churches, schools, and civic organizations who request it.

Grant For Educational Film

THE Committee on Motion Pictures in Education has received a grant of \$136,000 for continuance of its activities, it was announced here today by George F. Zook, President of the American Council of Education.

With this grant from the general education board, a clearing house of information on visual education will be established under the direction of Charles F. Hoban Jr.

Among other projected activities, the committee on motion pictures in education will set up reviewing panels of experts in various fields to appraise educational films which are now available and outline areas for needed film production.

Clarifies Rule On Ticket Stubs

REGULATIONS requiring theatres to retain for not less than three months the portions of admission tickets taken up by them were interpreted by the Inland Revenue Bureau last week in such a way as to relieve certain exhibitors from that requirement.

The bureau rules that where a film theatre does not sell reserved seat tickets to cover particular seats or boxes; does not sell any tickets for an amount in excess of the regular box-office prices; does not sell tickets otherwise than through a mechanical ticket sales recording device which records accurately every ticket sold and its selling price, makes and keeps for inspection by revenue officers, as well as for other purposes hourly records of all transactions made through the mechanical device or otherwise, such records being transcribed from an accurate mechanical system of recording, which is equivalent of an individual count of ticket stubs "there is in effect compliance with the provisions of the regulations and it will not be necessary for such theatre to retain the ticket stubs unless instructed to do so for certain periods by duly authorized representatives of the Bureau of Internal Revenue."

However, it was held, unless all of the above requirements are met, it is necessary that ticket stubs be retained for a period of not less than three months.

Theatre Equipment
and
COMPLETE SUPPLIES

Projectors and Parts.
Motor Generators.
Sound Screens.
Lenses, Carbons, etc.

Coleman Electric Co.
258 Victoria St.
TORONTO, ONT.

EVERYTHING FOR THE THEATRE FROM SHEET TO STREET

RKO Radio Releasing Disney's "Snow White" For Release.

BRITISH FILM DIGEST

BY WARD SHAFTESBURY

SO it doesn't make much difference after all! Here I was worrying myself sick over whether or not Prudential was behind the Korda-United Artists Deal, and now *there isn't* any deal! I'm very disappointed. So is Wardour Street. So is Denham. So, I presume, is Mr. Korda. And so, I am very sure, are Douglas Fairbanks and Mary Pickford. They, you see, were the flies in the ointment. Here's the story: Last week, when everything was all set for the signing of the deal by which Samuel Goldwyn and Alexander Korda, with British financing, were to buy the United Artists units of Mary Pickford, Douglas Fairbanks and Charlie Chaplin, instead of the deal being signed, the majority owners were given back their options. Goldwyn and Korda stated that "Owing to insurmountable legal complications we have decided not to exercise our option for the purchase of the three units of the United Artists Corporation stock . . ." That was all, officially.

Unofficially, rumour has it that Miss Pickford and Mr. Fairbanks K.O.'d the deal when they postulated a six picture a year release for each of them at a very low releasing percentage. For obvious reasons, such an arrangement would be dangerous to the company and hence negotiations flopped. So now everything is back at the beginning again with Goldwyn and Korda still turning out all the pictures without any real control in the organization.

The breakdown of arrangements has been rather a blow to the British Film Industry. Over here, the feeling has been that with United Artists in English hands, its producing schedules might be given more completely to British studios. Now, of course, there is no hope of this and things will go on in the same old way.

Lichtman Reveals M-G-M Plans

AL LICHTMAN, vice-president of Loews Inc., sailed for the States last week. Before he left, he revealed further M-G-M plans for their British studios. He announced that a completely British organization of artists and technicians is to operate in England. Elizabeth Allen has been signed as leading lady for "The Citadel" which Victor Saville is to put into production in January. Also in preparation are "Finishing School", "And So-Victoria", "Shadow of the Wing", and "Goodbye, Mr. Chips".

"Good Earth" In Tokyo

I HEARD some interesting news anent the showing of "Good Earth" in Japan. In view of the present Sino-Japanese troubles, one would think that such a subject would hardly be popular in Tokyo — however, a cable from the Tokyo M-G-M manager tells a different story: "Gala premiere 'Good Earth' sold overflowing capacity of Tokyo's largest legitimate theatre, the Kabuli. Important statesmen, producers, trade leaders and general public unanimously declare performances of Rainer and Muni superb and truly oriental." An amusing incident occurred at Loew's State — the Manager noted a Chinese and Japanese watching "The Good Earth" with only one seat between them — and both were applauding!

London Fog Hits Box-Office

THE heavy fog around London lately has been playing havoc not only with Box-offices but also with production schedules — artists are finding it increasingly difficult to get to and from the Studios. Last week, the well-known American actor, Otto Kruger, was injured in a fog accident at Barnet Way, Mill Hill, while he was on his way to Elstree. Mr. Kruger's injury will delay production on "The Housemaster", which is being made by Associated British.

"March of Time" Lauded

SIR ARCHIBALD SINCLAIR, leader of the Liberal Party in England, paid a striking tribute to "The March of Time" during his address to Parliamentary colleagues at a meeting in the House of Commons last week. He said that "The March of Time" as a magazine newsreel does more than record fact — "It relates pictorially cause with effect, and gives a wider and more reasoned view of political and economic conditions than any of its fellows."

2,000,000 Francs Lost

TWO million francs were lost by Swiss cinemas in the past year. This heavy loss was the result of several years of overbuilding and in consequence new cinema projects have been abandoned. At the present moment there are 38 film distribution firms in this country, 354 cinemas and 132,000 seats — giving a general average of 32 seats for every 1,000 inhabitants.

British Studio News

IN the light of the headlines, John Paddy Carstairs' new film, "Incident In Shanghai" takes first place in our news this week — Patrick Barr and Janet Johnson play the leading roles — shooting starts immediately at Pinewood — The story deals with the emotions and adventures of some Europeans trapped in a Chinese hotel in the fighting area during the present Sino-Japanese war — the story shows the changing fortune of war — with the hotel changing hands almost daily — there is no political bias in the story and from all I can gather it should make a most interesting picture. . . . The famous playwright and actor, Emlyn Williams, co-stars with Hugh Williams in a new murder-mystery thriller just started shooting at Welwyn — "The Norwich Victims". . . . I understand that the fighting I mentioned last week at the "He Was Her Man" set was a mere nothing compared to the fisticuffs of this week's shooting — a bare-knuckle fight was waged between Victor MacLaglen and Don McCorkindale in a roped square — it was a very bloody business with all the women in the audience, including Gracie Fields, shouting encouragement. . . . Milton Rosmer started direction of studio sequences for "The Challenge" at Denham last week — thrilling outdoor scenes have already been taken in Switzerland on the Matterhorn with Luis Trenker, Robert Douglas and Joan Gardner. The story tells of the first ascent of the Matterhorn by Whymper, Lord Francis Douglas, Hudson and Hadow, of the failure of the big Italian party which started from the Italian side at the same time and of the death of Hudson, Douglas and Hadow during the descent.

**Watch For Associated Theatres'
General Expansion Program.**

AUSTRALIAN FILM DIGEST

BY LEON S. STONE

AUSTRALIA now left with only two film trade publications — "Film Weekly" and "Exhibitors Monthly" — following absorption of "Everyones" by the "Film Weekly". "Everyones" was established 17 years ago by Martin C. Brennan, who was also responsible for founding the "Film Weekly" in 1926.

A sad co-incidence following the amalgamation of the two papers was the death of their founder, Martin C. Brennan, aged 59, after an illness extending over years. One of the outstanding figures in the Aussie film trade and theatrical world Brennan as well as founding and editing the two trade publications was correspondent for many years to American "Variety", "Billboard" and English theatrical papers "Encore" and "Performer". His knowledge of the Aussie theatrical and film trade back to pioneer days 30 years ago was encyclopedic. Brennan is survived by a wife, two daughters and a son.

"Annabella's" Long Run

BRITISH picture "Annabella" having a phenomenal Sydney run. In 13 weeks at Embassy Theatre it has broken all house records since the theatre's inception, eclipsing "Scarlet Pimpernel" (10 weeks), "Lost Horizon" (9), "Evergreen" (9), "Blossom Time" (9).

Theatres Pool Interests

J. C. WILLIAMSON and Fuller-Hayward New Zealand Theatres are pooling picture hiring under a co-operative set-up. In no way is it consolidation of the two groups. Only to guard against opposition measures and provide a smoother supply of films for both circuits of 77 theatres.

Chauvel Making New Picture

PRODUCER-Director Charles Chauvel is ready to make his first feature film since his Hollywood return. Will be based on the exploits of the Aussie light horse cavalrymen in Palestine during the Great War.

American capital is behind Chauvel's picture.

In Hollywood he contracted with Universal to provide one-third capital of future Expeditionary films for world release, including all its studio facilities. Universal thus comes into Expeditionary without controlling the company.

Film Tax Receipts Up

NEW ZEALAND Government's second budget reading estimates a \$400,000 film hire tax income. This is a jump of \$50,000 over last year's figures for film hire.

Australian Theatres' Labor Troubles

DATA tabulated in Perth and Adelaide by A. E. Huckerby, General Secretary, Aussie Theatrical Employees' Association, shows disturbing tendency amongst suburban exhibitors to employ non-union labor. Huckerby is conducting an intensive opposition campaign.

His association is applying to the Federal Arbitration Court to establish an award that will pin all suburban exhibitors down to paying employees union rates. Unless offending exhibitors agree to employ only members of the A.T.E.A., the picturegoing public will be circularized and asked not to patronize non-union "black-listed" theatres.

CONKLIN IN WINNIPEG

BY J. J. CONKLIN

BECAUSE a Winnipeg grocery owner turned a catchy tune about the Austrian capital on his radio, he has received a letter from the Canadian Performance Rights Association of Toronto telling him he must pay a fee of \$25 a year.

Latest activity of the agents for the association is checking up on Winnipeg's small grocery stores and cafes.

Besides Mr. Katz, other grocery stores and cafes have received the same warning, and the radio in the Avalon Cafe is silent. The proprietor of that establishment said he would like to tune in the radio for his customers, but cannot do so. It is only used for hockey broadcasts.

Radio stations in Winnipeg pay a fee to the association, unofficially given at \$4,000 a year. That fee, however, only covers home reception.

The Dominion Theatre has been assessed by the association on a seating capacity basis, Miss Isobel Price, business manager of the Holden Players, said. The association thus collects a fee for each seat in the theatre, whether it is occupied or not. "It is an imposition," said Miss Price.

Mr. Katz said that a short while ago a man walked into his store. Mr. Katz turned on the radio and the strains of "Good Night Vienna" came over.

"You've no right to play that selection in your establishment," Mr. Katz was told.

Mr. Katz was amused and laughed. But he did not laugh two days later when he received a letter from the association telling him he had to pay a license fee of \$25 a year if he kept the radio in his grocery store.

The agents are operating in all sections of Winnipeg, it is said, and grocery stores, cafes and other public places have had to take out their instruments.

Appeal Lodged In Picketing Case

AN appeal was lodged in county court Tuesday against the judgment of Magistrate R. B. Graham, who dismissed charges of "watching and besetting" brought in the Winnipeg city police court on November 23, against 14 pickets who had marched up and down in front of the Park Theatre, 698 Osborne St.

DeMille To Star Hudson Bay Company

A REPORT received this week in Winnipeg from Hollywood is that Cecil B. DeMille plans to film the great human drama of the Hudson's Bay Company as his next picture. Jeanie Macpherson, historical research specialist on DeMille's staff for many years, is said to be gathering voluminous data for such a picture. DeMille plans are said to include filming the major part of the story at the actual North Canadian locales of the many adventures in pioneering, including taking scenes in Winnipeg. DeMille has just completed "The Buccaneer", the story of Jean Lafitte, in which Frederic March and Francisca Gaal are co-starred.

Capitol Theatre Closed

THE Capitol Theatre, in Winnipeg, is to be resealed throughout, and for that purpose will close for one week at the conclusion of the showings on December 11. Manager Bishop announces that it will re-open on December 18.

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